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DEPT FOR AF/FO, AF/E, AF/RSA, PM

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/14/2012

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [MOPS](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: USAU PARTICIPATES IN AU MILITARY PLANNING WORKING
GROUP FOR AMISON DEPLOYMENT - PART II

Classified By: Ambassador Cindy L. Courville, reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

¶1. (SBU) Summary: On 12 FEB, Mr. Bereng Mtinkulu, Head, Peace Support Department (PSOD) of the African Union, chaired a military planning meeting of the &core group8 of troop contributing countries and international donors/partners who have formally pledged troops or financial/logistical support to the deployment of AMISOM. The meeting was attended by representatives from the AU, IGAD, UN, USAU (COL Rainey and CAPT (Ret.) Cunningham), Ugandan w/LTC Skow, Algeria, Burundi, Kenya, Ghana, Malawi, Somalia TFG, and Ethiopia. The purpose of the meeting was to begin detailed planning and coordination for the AMISOM deployment. Head, PSOD provided situational background and planning documents, briefed the planning requirements for AU Planning Cell augmentation, and developed a tentative timeline to deploy the Ugandan force.

¶2. (C) Head, PSOD provided all representatives with planning documents for the AMISOM deployment that had been developed during the AU/UNDPKO planning sessions which were conducted from 5-9 FEB 2007. Those four (4) documents were provided earlier via unclassified email. Many delegations appeared very surprised to be asked to begin detailed planning for the deployment as this was their first meeting at the AU and they had only basic information on the earlier released deployment plan. Nigeria, Burundi, Malawi, and Algeria requested a concept of operations and updated status of the security situation. Uganda, USAU and several of the other delegations requested that the AU put in place a Strategic Planning and Management Structure. Specifically, the representatives stated that they were awaiting the AU,s request for planners to properly plan and execute the AMISOM deployment. Head, PSOD discussed the lack of capacity in the AU to plan large-scale peace support operations and the immediate need for augmentation. He used a &draft8 note verbale (written by USAU) that identified the required additional planners.

¶3. (C) The AU PSOD Planning Element requires the following planners: Military: Strategic/Operational Planner-2; Military Logistics Planner-2 (with possibility of 1 deploying to staging area); Engineering Planner-1; Training Planner-1; Civilian Police: Strategic/Operational Planner-2; Training Planner-1; Mission Support: Logistics Operations Planner-1; Transport Planner-2 (one each for air and surface); Medical/Medical Logistics Planner-2; Communications Planner-1; Information Technology Planner-1; Civil Engineering Planner-1; Aviation Planner-1; Movement Control Planner-1; Mapping/GIS Planner-1; Supply Planner-2 (one each for fuel and rations); Procurement Planner-1; Budget Planner-1; and Personnel Planner-1. While the note verbale has to be approved by the AU leadership, the planning requirements identified, were briefed to the &core group8 and would be the basis for the international donors/partners

meeting on 13 FEB. Delegations were asked to nominate qualified planners to the Head, PSOD for immediate augmentation to Addis. Head, PSOD also expressed the need for immediate donor/partner assistance for start-up funds to help pay for planners who are unfunded.

¶4. (C) As a result of the concerns expressed by the troop contributing countries for an updated and detailed assessment of the security situation, Head, PSOD proposed that a detailed reconnaissance to Mogadishu by the Force Commander and the commanders of the TCC forces.

¶5. (C) Head, PSOD also stressed the need to develop a deployment timeline. Each troop contributing country (Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Burundi, and Malawi) was asked to commit to provide names for the proposed &Commander,s Recon8 no later than 15 FEB. The Reconnaissance would be conducted from 25-27 FEB. All of the delegations requested additional time to consult with their capitals but agreed to try to meet the proposed timeline. The next meeting of the Military Planning Group (Core Group) is scheduled for 19 FEB at the AU.

¶6. (U) Please refer any questions/comments to COL Tim Rainey, 251-11-517-4055.

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